

DX LISTENING DIGEST 3-148, August 16, 2003
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NOTE: If you are a regular reader of DXLD, and a source of DX news but have not been sending it directly to us, please consider yourself obligated to do so. Thanks, Glenn

CONTINENT OF MEDIA 03-05 Nominal schedule on RFPI, 7445: Thu 2000, Fri 0200, 0830, 1430, Sat 2130, Sun 0330, 0930, 1530

NEXT AIRINGS OF WORLD OF RADIO 1195:

RFPI: Sat 0800, 1400, 1730, 2330, Sun 0530, 1130, 1830, Mon 0030, 0630, 1230, Tue 1900, Wed 0100, 0730, 1330 on 7445
[nominal times subject to delay or pre-emption]

WRN: Rest of world Sat 0800, Europe only Sun 0430, N America Sun 1400

WWCR: Sat 1030, Sun 0230 5070, 0630 3210, Wed 0930 9475

WRMI: Sat & Sun 1800+ on 15725

WINB: Sun 0031 on 12160

WJIE: Sun 1630 on 7490, 13595 (maybe)

WBCQ: Mon 0415 on 7415

WRN ONDEMAND:

<http://new.wrn.org/listeners/stations/station.php?StationID=24>

OUR ONDEMAND AUDIO [also for CONTINENT OF MEDIA, MUNDO RADIAL]:

Check <http://www.worldofradio.com/audiomid.html>

[Low] (Download) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1195.rm>

(Stream) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1195.ram>

[High] (Download) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1195h.rm>

(Stream) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1195h.ram>

(Summary) <http://www.worldofradio.com/wor1195.html>

** ALGERIA. Het lijkt er op dat RTA Algiers definitief gestopt is met KG-uitzendingen. Op hun website is geen enkele KG-frequentie meer te vinden en ik kan ze ook nergens horen. Ik heb een mail aan hun

technische dienst gezonden met een vraag om wat meet uitleg. 73 (Guido Schotmans, Antwerp, Belgium, Aug 12, BDXC via DXLD)

** AUSTRALIA. RA Previews: FEEDBACK* - listener letters, features and news about RA. This weekend we have some good advice for those who may be interested in setting up their own radio station. Don't whatever you do mention the word short-wave. If, like the Aboriginal Resource & Development Services in Australia's Arnhem Land, you decide to set-up a short-wave service to offer education, information and cultural reinforcement for the people of the region be prepared for a long hard slog. But, as we'll hear, the three years of hard work has paid off and the Community Development Radio Service is now broadcasting on short-wave, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. And they said that short-wave was dead! [T;%] (via John Figliozi, swprograms via DXLD)

I caught the tail end of the UT Fri 2105 broadcast, beautiful signal on 21740; but it always conflicts with the first and best chance to hear DXing with Cumbre, which spends a good many minutes wrapping up the show with no news; and I also had to be sure Mundo Radial, with which it also conflicts, was correctly airing on WWCR 15825 at 2115 (well, 2114). Other airings of Feedback are 0605 UT Sat and 0305 UT Sun.

At the Feedback site, <http://www.abc.net.au/ra/feedback/default.htm> the 'latest program' was still ``Aug 10`` when I checked at 0105 UT Aug 16, but it did have audio available; is the latest show, somewhat delayed, always available now for only a week? If that doesn't work out, as was pointed out here a while ago, the WRN archive on Sundays includes Feedback for a week (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BRAZIL. For those put off by all the Portuguese in previous issues (and you should not be --- it's a lot like English, especially when slurred), altho I mentioned the gist briefly in English on WORLD OF RADIO, the two important stories were that R. Nacional do Brasil has resumed an external service, but only to Africa in Portuguese, on existing Amazonian service frequencies; and on 3235, R. Clube de Marília which recently reactivated, has been taken over by R. Guarujá. (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BRAZIL [and non]. Over-reaction to Bandeirantes being reported slightly off-frequency continued:

Prezado Sarmiento, e demais amigos. Não se deseja polemizar. O dextista que enviou a notícia com certeza É gente boa, e que defende bem o nome do dextismo na Rep. Checa. O nosso amigo Glenn Hauser cumpre uma tarefa de reproduzir notícias que chegam até ele de todas as partes do mundo, tanto É que já publicou muitas mensagens oriundas daqui do Brasil, sobre o que acontece por aqui. O que se coloca em questão É a

relevancia de discutir ou n,,o mundialmente pouco mais de meio quiloHertz numa emiss,,o quando deveriamos (mundialmente) nos aperceber de novas escutas, novas emissoras, a mudanÁa da tendencia mundial nas ondas curtas (o impacto das 'grandes' abrindo espaÁo no dial ao sairem de algumas frequencias, proporcionando a recepÁ,,o de muitas 'menores'), enfim, desejamos muito, mas muito mesmo que a Radio Bandeirantes, por ser uma das mais serias emissoras de r·dio do mundo (juntando-se a outras de tantos paÍses que seguem uma linha de aÁ,,o que lhe d,,o a devida credibilidade), que se diga que ela foi bem recebida na Espanha, na IndonÈsia, no Egito, na Rep. Checa, na Nova Zelandia, enfim, em todos os quadrantes do mundo.

Levantar mundialmente diferenÁas de menos de 1 kHz no padr,,o irradiante de uma emissora qualquer do mundo (ondas curtas, em especial), È algo que n,,o leva a nada. Sarmento, voce n,,o tem problema algum nisto. Voce apenas sem querer levantou um fato que j· È notÙrio em alguns lugares do mundo, onde se discute a cor da camisa de quem discursou e n,,o o discurso propriamente dito. Um abraÁo a todos, e de minha parte dou por encerrada essa discuss,,o que no fim pode acabando em nada (Rudolf Grimm, S,,o Bernardo, SP/B, radioescutas via DXLD)

Prezados da lista, Circulou por aqui uma interessante discuÁ,,o sobre o pequeno desvio de frequÍncia da R·dio Bandeirantes e n,,o vou entrar nessa ·rea tÈcnica embora conheÁa um pouquinho tem experts por aqui. O que chamou atenÁ,,o foi encontro do Sarmento com alguÈm da ·rea tÈcnica da emissora onde o mesmo define que as ONDAS CURTAS, s,,o mantidas pela empresa como ''extratÈgica da empresa''fazendo supor que realmente s,,o deficit·rias. Devemos levar em conta que as emissoras que operam nessas faixas trabalham com transmissores valvulados de manutenÁ,,o bastante cara, assim como os de ondas mÈdias, apesar de j· existir os estado sÙlido h· bem tempo. Muitas emissoras sumiram, ali·s qualquer dia quero consultar os mais veteranos dessa lista se sabem alguma coisa sobres elas. Devo louvar as emissoras R·DIO BANDEIRANTES, R·DIO APARECIDA, pois deste crianÁa que ligo o r·dio nunca deixei de captar uma sÙ vez em uma de suas frequÍncias essas emissoras.Outras de vez em quando somem voltam boas,algumas meio capengas e outras nunca mais. AbraÁos e boas escutas, (JosÈ Maria de Moraes, ManhuaÁu, MG. SONY SW ICF11, SONY SW ICF7600GR, ibid.)

Estimado colega Grimm, yo tampoco quiero polemizar, pero cuando usted dice

``Levantar mundialmente diferenÁas de menos de 1 kHz no padr,,o irradiante de uma emissora qualquer do mundo (ondas curtas, em especial), È algo que n,,o leva a nada.``

Estoy seguro, muy seguro de que la mayoria de los DXistas escandinavos no estariamos de acuerdo con usted.

Permítame recordarle un caso que ocupó mucho espacio en los foros internacionales últimamente y es la frecuencia de 6010A ("A" debe interpretarse aquí como "aproximadamente", es una abreviatura caída en desuso en este país donde resido, pero en la Época de los receptores convencionales de tubos sí se usaba). Aquí en los alrededores operan varias emisoras latinoamericanas, a saber de México, Chile, Uruguay, Brasil, Colombia. También operan allí algunas emisoras de países no latinoamericanos, pero de ellos no me pienso ocupar ahora, porque no son DX.

La mexicana Radio Mil viene utilizando la frecuencia desde hace unos 20 años y cuando surgió el otro año la colombiana La Voz de tu Conciencia en una frecuencia contigua, causó interferencia a la anterior si se escuchaba en el modo AM, pero al mismo tiempo pudo escucharse en todo el mundo para los que usaban el modo SSB.

Entonces a través de un colaborador de la radio mexicana, también DXista, formularon una queja a la emisora colombiana, que por otra parte sólo había acatado lo ordenado de Ministerio de Comunicaciones de dejar las frecuencias de 6060 y 6065 en donde antes había transmitido.

Vino una fase de reajuste de frecuencias, porque la colombiana quería complacer el deseo de Radio Mil, y mientras tanto los DXistas tuvieron mucho tino a la hora de sintonizar la frecuencia para ver si era Parinacota, CX42 o alguna de las otras. En las listas internacionales salieron entonces las frecuencias de estas emisoras con 1 y hasta 2 décimos. Era información útil en ese momento.

Para muchos escuchas en esta parte del mundo la medición de frecuencia se ha vuelto incluso más importante en algunos casos que la propia identificación de la emisora.

Eso es absurdo, pero con los receptores que los colegas usan, NRD525, 535, Drake R8, Icom R71 y otros, la frecuencia viene indicada con décimos, y por influencia de la escucha en onda media, la moda de medir las frecuencias se ha establecido también en la onda corta.

Te cuento como algunos de mis colegas DXistas de onda media trabajan, cuando están en casa o en una expedición. Se sientan enfrente de 2 ó 3 receptores que continuamente cambian de frecuencia, pasando de una memoria a otra, o en pasos rápidos, de 10 en 10 kHz. Pocos utilizan el modo AM, sino USB o SSB (o ECSS) y por eso, al pasar de 10 en 10, es lógico que la frecuencia sea xxxx.00. Si fuera distinta la frecuencia, no se captaría sino heterodinos.

Para volver a la onda corta, resulta que allí también se puede grabar

la frecuencia en la memoria del receptor, y de ahí el interés en registrar que una emisora haya variado de frecuencia, aunque tan sólo fuera por un décimo o dos.

Si tengo grabado una emisora en 5677.24 USB y unos días más tarde resulta que se mudó a 5676.88 (variables o no), y entre las dos frecuencias hay una señal de teletipo muy fuerte, pues entonces le aseguro que no se va a captar si la señal por otro lado es débil.

Para oirla debería haberla grabado en 5676.88 LSB.

No deseo polemizar más, pero quería dejar constancia de la utilidad que puede tener el registro fraccionado de una frecuencia.

En el caso de Radio Bandeirantes concuerdo que resulta exagerado indicar que su frecuencia de 31 metros estaba 30 Hz por debajo de la exacta. Esa información no conduce a nada. En cuanto a las demás frecuencias de la RB pienso que tiene validez, porque un desfase de .4 o .5 kHz sí se nota inmediatamente a la hora de rastrear las bandas valiéndose del modo USB, SSB o ECSS.

Me permito agregar de <http://www.rovers.net/~hackmohr/> la lista de Mark Mohrmann los datos actuales de las emisoras latinas que se oyen en los alrededores de los 6010 kHz:

6009.78 COLOMBIA LVdt Conciencia,Pto Lleras [0009-1120](9.78-11.06)
Jul 03 C (fpl)To 5910 (r)AM1530 R Alcarv'n ex6060/6065

6009.79 MEXICO * XEOI Nucleo R Mil, Mexcio City [0032-1318](09.9-10.2)
Jul 03 P (r)AM1000

6010.07 CHILE R Parinacota, Putre [2308-1059](09.7-10.07) Jul 03 X
*0800->1053 FM94.5 (r)R Cooperativa 0400-0800

6010.2 URUGUAY Em Ciudad d Montevideo [1300-1900/0030-0240](.02-.71)
Jul 03 X ex9650 (r)CX42-AM1370 0030*

6010.24 BRAZIL * R Inconfidencia, Belo Horizonte [2049-1135](.10-.2)
Jul 03 X

Los guarismos entre paréntesis indican registros en frecuencias diferentes a la indicada. Así, Radio Mil, en 6009.79, ha sido captada en otras oportunidades en frecuencias que han variado entre 6009.9 y 6010.2.

En Europa, la única emisora realmente difícil de las mencionadas, es la uruguaya. La emisora que se capte, depende un poco de la hora y la propagación del momento. Entonces, una indicación relativamente

precisa de la frecuencia viene a ser una herramienta 'til a la hora de tratar de "pescar" la identificación. Hay que recordar que muchos DXistas europeos, aunque saben distinguir entre el portugués hablado en el Brasil y el castellano, no logran distinguir el castellano que se hable en Chile del que se hable en Colombia o en México. Cordialmente, (Henrik Klemetz, Suecia, ibid.)

** CANADA. CIRB, 93.9, at the Confederation Bridge [connecting PEI to the mainland], heard at 1900 UT July 3, a TIS with info on bridge and events in surrounding areas (Nigel Pimblett, visiting PEI, CIDX Messenger via DXLD) This one qualifies for the latest FM Atlas: location: Borden, stereo, 70 meters high, 37 watts (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CANADA. DIGITAL DEPENDENCY EXPOSED

By JACK KAPICA, Globe and Mail Update

<http://www.globeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20030815.gtkapicapower0815/BNStory/Technology/>

Cracks in the dream of a high-technology future appeared when the massive blackout, which covered the northeastern United States and most of Ontario, knocked tens of millions of people back to the pre-digital age.

For many people, it took lot of phone calls using landlines before it they discovered that the power outage was more than a local phenomenon - in fact, it covered some 15 million square kilometres.

For people using cellphones, it wasn't that easy - most cellphone relay towers, which use electricity, were knocked out, leaving owners with perfectly usable handsets that couldn't connect anywhere. A few towers had backup power, but not all.

Those whose cellphones remained operational suddenly found themselves in demand. On a Toronto street, a woman who identified herself only as "Tz-zik," was offering the use of her cellphone for \$2 per call.

"Look, power went out, we gotta make a hustle," said the 18-year-old. "It's awesome, we make fun out of every situation." She and her group of five friends proudly flashed the eight dollars they had made in the first five minutes of their campaign.

Internet sites

Worse, the Internet - which has been touted as a medium of last resort during a disaster - was rendered next to useless; though the Internet stayed up for the most part, many people couldn't even turn on their computers to get to it.

The only ones who could connect were those using battery-powered laptops with built-in modems and a dial-up connection to the Internet. And even then, when some areas got their power back, people still couldn't connect to the Net as random power surges knocked local nodes off-line.

Fortunately, most of the telephone system continued to work - often, however, without the extra features, such as caller display, which require an additional power source.

At Bell Canada, spokesman Andrew Cole said both telephone and Internet services remained uninterrupted. Bell's networks remain functional, he said, but as a result of the increased traffic, he said the company requested that customers not use their cellphones and landlines to and from affected areas except for essential purposes, and not to call the operator or 911 for information on the current situation.

Even those people who could connect to the Internet couldn't reach some Web sites. Globeandmail.com remained functional on reserve power, as did CBC.ca, the Toronto Stock Exchange, Google.ca and Canada.com. Several other news sites - Eye.net, Thestar.ca, Thespec.com - all were down when checked early Friday morning.

Radios led way

People found themselves forced to get their news in old-fashioned ways. Commuters who were sitting in gridlocked downtown traffic could at least listen to their car radios - but only certain stations.

In Toronto, for instance, the all-news station 680News was knocked off the air for a while before its owner, Rogers Radio, a division of cable-TV and Internet giant Rogers Communications, struggled to kick in emergency power. All the company's other radio stations - CHFI-FM, AM590 and Jack-FM - also experienced "brief outages," reported Chick McCoy, vice-president and general manager of Rogers Radio.

Like other AM-band radio stations, 680News had to rely on its own power to broadcast. FM-band stations, all of which broadcast from the CN Tower, required only enough power to get their signals to the transmitter - the tower's emergency power system ensured that all stations that could summon a signal could broadcast it.

The CBC TV News operation was forced into silence briefly Thursday as technicians scrambled with kick in emergency power and to find other ways to get its television signals across the country. Eventually, CBC Newsworld had to continue broadcasting through its Calgary bureau.

CBC-1 radio (99.1 FM) experienced an extended silence, during which reporters moved to CBC-2 (94.1 FM), from which the company managed to provide continuous coverage of the blackout.

The all-talk radio station CFRB, one of the authoritative voices of the Toronto radio scene, stayed on the air with its coverage of the event. [but not CFRX as previously noted]

Digital systems

Many industries that have switched to digital systems were affected - especially those doing business on-line. Even if they had emergency back-up power, customers without power couldn't reach their services.

A number of airline flights were cancelled or delayed because of the blackout, leaving travellers to spend the night sleeping in waiting lounges or checking into hotels. About 1,000 people found themselves unexpectedly stranded in Winnipeg, which was not affected by the blackout, when six Toronto-bound flights were diverted to the Winnipeg International Airport.

As well, no planes took off for Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa Thursday afternoon.

Disgruntled but orderly passengers stood in enormous lineups to reschedule flights or started working the phones to find a hotel room.

The blackout also emphasized the digital revolution's dependence on electricity, and how that dependence is putting an extra strain on the power system's ability to provide it.

In many stores without reserve power, sophisticated cash registers with stock-tracking barcode readers gave way to handheld calculators as clerks struggled to complete sales. In smaller grocery stores, which did not have backup power, owners were even more anxious to sell their produce before the lack of refrigeration spoiled it.

In Toronto, one darkened convenience store lit only by two candles was doing a brisk business. Shoppers queued for groceries while clerks calculated prices on a solar-powered calculator held under a flashlight.

There were no reports of major corporate failures.

Corporations

Large companies housed in corporate towers in Toronto went on emergency power almost immediately, and provided a few points of light

on the city skyline after sundown. Aside from some loss of data on computers that had not been saved at the moment the power failed, central systems continued working. But with other systems down, most companies found it impossible to continue doing business and sent their employees home, ordering them not to come in today unless their work was critical.

The blackout also brought out business opportunists. The insurance industry is taking the opportunity to sell "cyber-risk" packages to companies whose insurance policies have not evolved along with their computer systems.

"Unfortunately, most companies are operating in a 21st-century threat environment with 20th-century insurance coverage," said John Spagnuolo, with the New-York-based Insurance Information Institute. "The dynamics of risk management have changed with technology."

Regardless of its product line or service, Mr. Spagnuolo said, "virtually all major businesses today rely on computer networks to function. But they need to recognize that network security risks are fundamentally different than traditional physical risks like fire.

"If a hacker or virus shuts down a network or destroys computer software or data, most businesses today have either limited or no coverage. Insurers have excluded these risks from standard commercial policies and are now offering standalone coverage. Whether your company conducts business over the Internet, stores customer data on servers or simply uses e-mail, it is at risk."

The sudden reliance on older technology has verified what a number of experts have been saying about our power system - that our networks are vulnerable.

A report published in 1996 by the U.S. Pentagon, concentrating on the prospect of a terrorist attack (which was quickly ruled out in Thursday's blackout) said that increasing deregulation and competition in the communications industry has created "an increased reliance on information systems to operate, maintain, and monitor critical infrastructures. This ... creates a tunnel of vulnerability previously unrealized in the history of conflict."

"The energy infrastructure is vulnerable to physical and cyber disruption that could threaten its integrity and safety," warned the U.S. National Energy Policy Development Group, under the chairmanship of Vice-President Dick Cheney, warned two years ago. "Disruptions could come from natural events, like geomagnetic storms and earthquakes, or could come from accidents, equipment failures, or deliberate sabotage."

The interdependence of many systems - including things as diverse as electric power, transportation, communications, water supply and banking - are also becoming more interdependent, raising the fear that they could shut down too, like Thursday's cascading power failures (via Kim Elliott, DC, DXLD)

**** CANADA. TRANSISTOR RADIO THE MEDIUM OF CHOICE AS BLACKOUT AFFECTS COMMUNICATION**

<http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/MediaNews/2003/08/14/160962-cp.html>

TORONTO (CP) - Old-style radio made a comeback Thursday as Ontario residents - at least those without their own generators - tuned in to radio broadcasts to find out about the great blackout of 2003.

Without electricity, desktop computers were kaput and television screens faded to black - even if they could broadcast a signal. And it was touch-and-go at some newspaper offices, where editors and reporters scrambled to put out Friday editions without the benefit of electricity at deadline crunch time.

With the power out, residents of Ontario hit by the massive outage shortly after 4 p.m. ET got their news about the blackout - albeit sketchy in the early going - from transistor radios, Internet sites via battery-powered laptop and through telephone calls to friends and relatives.

The major television networks were on the air, but for the most part, those in affected areas were unable to tune in.

Music play lists and regular programming were ditched at many radio stations, which provided live reports of the unfolding drama during the rush hour and throughout the evening.

Radio reports advised commuters to treat traffic light intersections as four-way stops, to be cautious at railway crossings and noted that some people were abandoning vehicles because they couldn't fill up at electricity-powered gas pumps.

Listeners were also warned to turn off electrical appliances and to be careful when using candles.

And as the electricity was slowly restored to some communities, newscasters relayed the warnings of officials not to overdo it.

"Hydro officials are asking you to keep everything off except for maybe one light," said a report on 680 News in Toronto. "As far as electronic appliances go, definitely air conditioners (off) because

they don't want to overload the system when they try to restore power."

Using emergency backup power, Broadcast News continued its national newscasts from its Toronto newsroom, and fed wire and audio reports to radio stations across the country.

The Toronto Sun and the Toronto Star were among the big-city dailies trying to put out a newspaper without the benefit of electricity. The Globe and Mail had backup power in its newsroom, as did the national newsroom of The Canadian Press.

"We're still planning to publish," Don McCurdy, managing editor of the Record of Kitchener, Cambridge and Waterloo, said at about 7:30 p.m., although the newspaper's offices were without power and only a few computers had hooked to backup power at the time.

"All our reporters are out gathering information, they're coming back in now with stuff and they're itching to write."

But even if the newsrooms were able to function, many papers were scrambling to figure out how to make it into print without working presses.

At the Brockville Expositor, Doug Coward said they were looking for a generator. "We went through this in 1998," he said, noting that during the ice storm that year the paper didn't publish for three days. But, he added, it was better to be without power in the summer than the winter (via Mike Terry, DXLD)

** CANADA. DIGITAL RADIO IN CARS: THE TECHNOLOGY THAT NEVER MADE IT TO THE DASHBOARD

Patrick Langston, The Ottawa Citizen Friday, August 08, 2003
<http://www.canada.com/search/story.aspx?id=cc939688-8633-424a-991d-7cb631f50dd6>

It promised to be the brave new world of automobile radio listening. Pristine sound. Static and interference abolished. Video screens displaying the name of the song and artist, weather and sports updates, traffic bulletins.

It all sounded great when, back in 2001, GM announced plans for Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) receivers as standard or optional equipment for 2003 Chevrolet Impalas and Monte Carlos sold in Canada, with 24 other models soon to follow suit. In Europe, Asia and the United States, DAB was already old hat, but we were to be the first country in the world to enjoy manufacturer-supplied DAB systems in our cars.

In fact, not a single DAB-equipped vehicle has left the factory. And don't look for one any time soon.

"We were advised that this was a technology that had great demand in the marketplace," says Richard James, manager of product communications for GM Canada. "But once we had it in a sense out there, we found there really wasn't enough demand for this particular feature to drive the kind of costs that would have been involved."

A quick check with Ottawa dealerships confirms James's explanation. "Never had anyone ask for it," say most local car sales reps. Nissan's Maxima and Murano do come with DAB buttons on the dash but no receivers, meaning a trip to a car radio shop for your unit.

That trip will cost you. Figure \$700-plus for the bargain basement variety. And you'd be one-of-a-kind: Ottawa's car radio shops also report zero demand for DAB receivers, even though some of next year's models will include such goodies as a built-in hard drive for recording broadcasts selected in advance.

Then again, even if you had a receiver, your listening choices, at least in Ottawa, would be limited. Fifteen area radio stations received DAB licenses from the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) last fall, but so far only CBC is broadcasting digitally (nationally, there are about 65 DAB stations, most of them in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver).

Blame costs, federal regulations and technological warfare, says Mark Maheu, vice-president and general manager of CHUM Radio, which operates CFRA, BOB-FM, Majic 100 and The Team 1200 in Ottawa.

CHUM stations have been broadcasting digitally in Toronto for years, but startup costs are huge, says Mr. Maheu. "For our four Ottawa stations, it's just under a million bucks. And then you've got ongoing costs because we need to rent tower space or roof space because it's not one single antenna. It's similar to a cell phone network. You're going to need transmitters in certain areas to cover certain pockets."

What's more, CRTC regulations dictate that digital broadcasts be simulcast on either FM or AM. That minimizes a DAB station's ability to target niche audiences for ethnic or other specialty programming because most mainstream listeners would hit the dial the minute they heard such limited-interest broadcasts.

A Toronto station was recently granted a DAB-only licence, but it remains the exception.

The spectre of satellite radio is also scaring off DAB investment, says Mr. Maheu. In the U.S., radio listeners can, for about 12 bucks a month and the cost of a receiver, subscribe to either the XM or Sirius satellite services.

That brings in well over 100 specialty, commercial-free channels, everything from comedy to Christian talk shows to old-style R&B. To date, no Canadian radio stations have been granted satellite licences and Canadian law forbids us from tuning in to the U.S. satellite networks, but the threat of a competing technology is one more impediment to broadcasters embracing DAB, says Mr. Maheu.

So what does the future -- one that could include integrated DAB/cellphone/handheld computer systems -- hold for DAB-hungry Canadian motorists?

At GM, says Mr. James, "We are going to watch the rollout of digital broadcasting across Canada. If we start seeing demand, we'll take another look at offering it on vehicles."

Meanwhile, noting the chicken-and-egg quality of his answer, Mr. Maheu says, "The car is the key. That's how FM radio took off. When it became a relatively reasonably expensed option in cars, people started ordering it. The same thing will happen with DAB and over the course of half a generation, maybe 10 years, the majority of the cars on the road will be DAB-equipped." © Copyright 2003 The Ottawa Citizen (via Harry van Vugt, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, DXLD)

** CANADA. CRTC decision, full text of decision at:
<http://www.crtc.gc.ca/archive/ENG/Decisions/2003/db2003-399.htm>

Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2003-399
Ottawa, 14 August 2003
Radio Chalom Montréal, Quebec
Application 2002-0246-6
Public Hearing in Montréal, Quebec 3 February 2003

Commercial AM (ethnic and religious radio) station in Montréal

The Commission hereby denies the application by Radio Chalom for a broadcasting licence to carry on a commercial AM (ethnic and religious radio) station in Montréal at 1650 kHz. The proposed station was primarily to serve Montréal's Jewish community, and would have replaced the service that the applicant currently provides through the subsidiary communications multiplex operation (SCMO) facilities of CIRA-FM Montréal (via Harry van Vugt, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, DXLD)

** CANADA [and non]. GUY BANVILLE, CHRONIQUEUR SUR RADIOACTU.CA

Communiqué de presse --- Pour diffusion immédiate
Montréal, le 15 août 2003

A partir du 18 août prochain, Guy Banville proposera une chronique hebdomadaire sur RadioActu <http://www.radioactu.ca> le premier site francophone d'information sur la radio. Fort de ses 30 années de carrière au Canada et en France, Guy Banville livrera au travers de cette chronique son regard parfois impertinent et sa réflexion sur le monde de la radio, ses évolutions, ses défauts, ses qualités. Il mettra à profit son expérience professionnelle et son sens aigu de l'observation dans cette chronique intitulée "Radio Ville". Cette chronique sera publiée sur RadioActu France et RadioActu Canada et sera un trait d'union entre les cultures radiophoniques de ces deux pays, tout en ouvrant un espace de réflexion et de dialogue entre professionnels de la radio canadiens et français.

Selon Daniel Robichaud responsable de Radioactu.ca et Directeur des nouveaux médias pour Corus la venue de Guy Banville "amènera davantage de réflexions sur le merveilleux monde de la radio qui est en grande transition actuellement au Québec. Le site Radioactu.ca offrait beaucoup d'informations mais encore peu d'opinions l'arrivée de monsieur Banville devrait combler ce vide."

Pour Nicolas Chagny, PDG de MédiasActu SA, société Editrice de RadioActu, l'arrivée de Guy Banville "marque davantage le positionnement incontournable de RadioActu dans le monde de la radio. Le parcours professionnel exceptionnel de Guy Banville à la fois en France et au Canada et son activité de consultant radio viendront enrichir et renforcer la ligne éditoriale qui a fait le succès de RadioActu depuis bientôt 6 ans". Nicolas Chagny s'est également dit très heureux d'accueillir Guy Banville au sein de RadioActu.

"Je suis ravi de pouvoir m'exprimer sur RadioActu qui pour moi représente le meilleur site Web destiné aux gens de la radio" a expliqué Guy Banville. "Je suis fortement motivé parce son équipe m'encourage à communiquer ce que j'entends à la radio mais aussi ce que j'y vois ! Regarder la radio, c'est essayer de la comprendre..."

CONTACT PRESSE : Daniel Robichaud dan@radioactu.ca
PRESS KIT : Photo Guy Banville & Nicolas Chagny :
<http://mediasactu.fr/presse/banvillechagny.jpg>
Autres logos et photos : <http://presskit.mediasactu.fr/>

A propos de Guy Banville
Guy Banville fait ses débuts en 1974 à CKAC73 Montréal, la plus importante radio généraliste au Québec. Après avoir co-fondé une entreprise de production audio-visuelle avec Pierre Robert Audiomultivision ancêtre de Pram (Surprise sur prise) il retourne à la

radio en 1982 sur CKMF 94 Montréal. En 1990, TÉLÉMÉdia, le plus important radiodiffuseur au Québec lui confie la direction des programmes de CITE FM et des 6 radios de son réseau. Créateur du mot et du concept ROCK-D...TENTE Guy Banville innove un nouveau format basé sur les attentes du groupe-cible âgé entre 25 et 49 ans. Recruté par Europe 2, il arrive à Paris en mai 1993 à titre de directeur des programmes et des communications. Guy Banville innove avec son équipe de nombreux concepts tels la série des concerts acoustiques, le train de Noël, les duos virtuels, Eurosonique. En juillet 1997 Europe obtient son record historique à 5,9 avec la matinale d'Arthur comme première Émission 25-34 ans en France, toutes radios confondues. En 1998, Europe atteint 6,1 d'audience cumulée. Résultat que la radio mettra 4 ans à retrouver (avril 2002) après son départ. Guy Banville décide de retourner au Canada pour retrouver TÉLÉMÉdia Radio à titre de Vice-président créativité et développement au bureau chef. À l'été 2001, Guy Banville choisit de devenir consultant radio et fonde Banville MÉdia Inc. Grâce à son expérience bi-culturelle, il est devenu une ressource externe pour diverses radios tant à Montréal qu'à Paris. Il est par ailleurs directeur artistique de la City Radio à Paris (réseau France Bleu) depuis octobre 2002.
<http://www.banvillemedia.com>

A propos de MédiasActu SA

Créée en juin 2000, MédiasActu SA est spécialisée dans la création de contenu et est l'Éditeur de RadioActu.com et MusicActu.com. RadioActu.com, site B2B, est aujourd'hui le premier service on-line indépendant d'information sur les radios françaises, canadiennes, suisses et belges et propose quotidiennement un fil d'actualité sur les radios ainsi que de nombreux services professionnels dont le Guide Pro. MusicActu.com, site B2C, est spécialisée dans l'actualité musicale. Outre son activité d'Éditeur de sites Internet, MédiasActu est également une agence de contenu : marque blanche, contenu sur-mesure, rewriting, externalisation de rédaction, dans tous les domaines (médias, culture, sport, information générale, communication d'entreprise). MédiasActu compte notamment parmi ses clients SFR, Tv-Radio.com/Comfm, Bouygues Télécom, France Télécom, Mediapiazza, ASCO-TP. Membre du GESTE (Groupement des Éditeurs de services en ligne), MédiasActu est une société du groupe Les Argonautes.
<http://www.mediasactu.fr/> (via Bill Westenhaver, QC, DXLD)

Glenn, I don't know if you've ever seen this RadioActu Canada newsletter. I believe they're based in France, but it seems that you can find radio info from both francophone Europe and Québec, though I've never devoted much time to exploring the site. 73 (Bill Westenhaver, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CHINA. CHINA CONDEMNS FALUN GONG INTERFERENCE IN TV SATELLITE SIGNALS | Text of report in English by official Chinese news agency

Xinhua (New China News Agency)

Beijing, 15 August: China Friday [15 August] condemned the Falun Gong cult for hijacking again the satellite signals of government-run Sino Satellite, which violated the basic principles of relevant civilian communications.

The TV satellite, belonging to the Sino-Satellite Communications Co Ltd, was taken over by illegal TV signals transmitted by Falun Gong cult followers twice, once at 9.05 p.m. Tuesday and once at 8.23 p.m. Wednesday [local times 12 and 13 August], according to the Ministry of Information Industry.

The illegal signals hindered the Chinese audience from watching routine programmes of China Central Television, China Education TV Station and 10 provincial TV stations.

"Falun Gong's law-breaking activity is information terrorism and banditry in the high-tech era," said a company executive. "It infringes on the rights and interests of our company, and its reputation as well. We retain the right to investigate the legal responsibility of the cult."

A senior official of the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television said the TV hijacking once again indicates the cult's goal to cause damage to the country and the people.

Those who back up and connive with the banned cult should be held responsible for the illegal act and will eventually eat their own bitter fruits, the official said.

The public who were disrupted from receiving the country's radio and television programmes also angrily condemned the Falun Gong cult's evil act. They urged the cult be severely punished to safeguard the interests of the people.

This week's hijackings were not the first time Falun Gong cult activists had broadcast illegal TV signals to cut into transmission using Sino Satellite.

The satellite was taken over on 21 September last year, during the Middle Autumn Festival when people should have been enjoying entertainment programmes on TV with their families.

Their attacks in late June last year also disrupted people in many remote villages in China from being able to watch the World Cup finals.

Sino Satellite, launched in 1998, serves dozens of clients including those of prime importance to the daily lives of Chinese, such as the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television, the Chinese Offshore Petrol Corporation, the National Meteorological Bureau and China Unicom.

Through this satellite, TV programmes are able to reach rural residents in remote villages in most landlocked areas in the country, and China Education TV Station broadcasts education programmes to students nationwide. Source: Xinhua news agency, Beijing, in English 0932 gmt 15 Aug 03 (via BBCM via DXLD)

** FRANCE. Three full months have passed with no interesting identifiable signal, at [25+ MHz] frequencies normally covered in this column, reaching my antenna at times when I'd been listening. Throughout that period, there were only three days when I didn't make serious efforts to hear things. It seems that the transatlantic path for 11 metre signals pegged out, on schedule, in April. If we're lucky, this propagation shut-down will only last for the duration of the northern summer. We'll have to wait until fall to discover whether the sunspot count will be high enough to sustain a further winter of long distance reception on 26 MHz via the F-layer. Oddly, all the April entries in my logsheet, five of them, are for signals from France. The RFI transmission on 25.820 MHz accounts for four of these but only the most recent one is mentioned:

25.820 AM RFI Issoudun, France, 19 Apr at 1240 UT

For at least two years, the regional tourist office in the town of La Rochelle, on the west coast of France, has been using a number of low power transmitters, in the eleven metre band, to provide info about local attractions. I got to hear snippets of the one on 25.928 MHz on three occasions between February and April. Programme content was a historical audio docu-drama on how various wars affected economic development along the Charante River. Such intellectual tourists, the French:

25.928 nFM, D  pt de Tourisme, La Rochelle, France, 7 April at 1555, in French, repeating recording for tourists, poor signal
(Alan Roberts, St. Lambert, QC, Aug CIDX Messenger via DXLD)

** INDIA. INDIAN NEWSREADER SCALES TV TOWER IN PROTEST OVER LOW PAY
Luke Harding in New Delhi, Thursday August 14 2003, The Guardian
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/india/story/0,12559,1019259,00.html>

Disgruntled office workers have often taken drastic action to demand better pay. They have gone on strike, staged walkouts or organised pickets.

But yesterday Bhaskar Vohra, an angry newsreader for India's state-run radio channel All India Radio, went one better when he scaled a 100 metre television tower in central New Delhi and threatened to set himself on fire.

Hundreds of people gathered in the Indian capital to watch Mr Vohra, who reads the news in Assamese. "I am not a terrorist, I am a translator-cum-newsreader," the 24-year-old, who was armed with only a backpack, said in a statement hurled down from the tower.

"If my demands are not met by August 15 I will burn the national flag and immolate myself."

Police spent most of the morning talking to the newsreader on his mobile phone. They eventually persuaded him to scramble back down after three-and-a-half hours. Yesterday a defiant Mr Vohra told the Guardian that he had taken the "drastic step" of climbing the tower to try to draw attention to the abysmal pay of freelance Indian newsreaders, who earn as little as 225 rupees (£3.10) for each shift.

He said he had spent a year and a half trying to meet India's information and broadcasting minister, Ravi Shankar Prasad, so he could press the issue, but had failed to get an appointment and officials had fobbed him off. "That's why I had to take this drastic step this morning," he explained. "I didn't hurt myself but I'm tired. I feel exhausted. It was quite high up there."

Mr Vohra said that freelance newsreaders often had to wait four to five months to get paid, could only work 12 shifts a month and scarcely made ends meet. They wanted a pay rise of 500 rupees a shift, he said.

Astonishingly, after climbing down from the tower, the newsreader was swept off to India's information and broadcasting ministry where he met the minister. Mr Prasad apparently told him he would do what he could, and would raise his grievance with All India Radio's director general.

"I told the minister the quality of newsreading in this country has gone down because of low pay," Mr Vohra said.

Last night detectives said it was too early to say whether Mr Vohra, a student at Delhi University, would be charged with any crime. "This is a vital installation. He should not have gone up there," said the deputy commissioner of police, Manoj Kumar Lal. "We will be interrogating him to find out why he did it. It's a strange case."

Thousands of police are on duty across the capital, with security tight ahead of celebrations of India's independence day today.

Copyright Guardian Newspapers Limited (via Bill Westenhaver, Jill Dybka, DXLD)

AIR EMPLOYEE THREATENS TO JUMP FROM TOWER, PERSUADED TO CLIMB DOWN
Onkar Singh in New Delhi/PTI | August 14, 2003 11:52 IST
Last Updated: August 14, 2003 14:06 IST

Police on Thursday noon managed to persuade an aggrieved All India Radio employee, who had threatened to jump off a tower in the Akashwani Bhavan premises in Delhi, to climb down. He has been taken to the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital for a medical checkup, DCP Manoj Lal told rediff.com.

Lal said that an employee of a television channel, who is a friend of Borah, played a crucial role in ending the episode.

Earlier in the morning, the busy Parliament Street became even busier when Bhaskar Borah (22), an AIR newsreader and a casual employee, threatened to jump to his death if his demands were not met. Borah is the general secretary of the Association of Casual Newsreaders and Translators. He threw some pamphlets from the tower, which listed his demands. They included a meeting with the Information and Broadcasting minister and the Prasar Bharti CEO.

His other demands are increase in the payment to newsreaders of regional languages from Rs 250/shift to Rs 500/shift, regularisation of all casual employees and providing I-cards to newsreaders. He also complained about payments being delayed up to 10 months.

Traffic on the busy street was thrown out of gear and a posse of policemen began regulating the movement of vehicles. A huge snorkel has been pressed into service has been kept on standby. Employees from the nearby offices, including that of the Reserve Bank of India and the Planning Commission, came out and were watching the proceedings. (Rediff.com via Bill Westenhaver, DXLD)

**** INTERNATIONAL VACUUM. XM & SIRIUS SATELLITE UPDATE**

XM had close to 700,000 subscribers as of July while Sirius recently passed the 100,000 mark (per Radio World). However, the solar cells aboard the XM satellites have been degrading at an accelerated pace due to a manufacturing defect, and this will cause XM to spend significant capital to construct and launch replacement satellites in the not too distant future.

While the URL below discusses the launch of just one XM replacement satellite, it is our understanding that both XM birds (nicknamed "Rock" and "Roll") are affected by the sub-standard solar cell problem, so the report may understate the gravity of the situation.
<http://www.rwonline.com/dailynews/one.php?id=3724>
(via Fred Vobbe, NRC FMTV via DXLD)

XM ADDS ANOTHER \$25 MILLION TO \$475 MILLION FUNDING PACKAGE
St. Louis - Aug 11, 2003
<http://www.spacedaily.com/news/xm-radio-03c.html>

Boeing will build and deliver a fourth Boeing 702 satellite for XM Satellite Radio, Inc., the Washington, D.C.-based provider of the nation's leading satellite radio service. The satellite, designated XM-4, will be delivered in late 2005 for future launch to XM's orbital slot at 115 degrees west longitude in support of XM's on-going service requirements. "This order demonstrates a valued customer's continued confidence in the Boeing 702 product line," said Dave Ryan, vice president and general manager of Boeing Satellite Systems. "XM initiated commercial service with two Boeing 702 satellites plus a ground spare in 2001, and we are grateful for this new opportunity to support their continued success. This award also makes clear that Boeing is fully committed to providing reliable technology and superior long-term service to its customers in the commercial and government marketplaces."

As in the first three XM spacecraft, Alcatel Espace of Toulouse, France will provide the S-band Digital Audio Radio Service (DARS) payload for XM-4. XM-4 will also feature a number of upgrades including a bi-propellant back up to its Xenon Ion Propulsion System (XIPS). Equipped with advanced triple junction solar cells, the satellite is designed to generate 18 kilowatts of power at start of service and 15.5 kilowatts at the end of its 15-year design life. XM is America's #1 satellite radio service. With over 692,000 subscribers as of June 30th, XM is on pace to have more than one million subscribers later this year. XM is available on a wide variety of GM, Honda, Toyota, Infiniti, Nissan and Audi models. GM recently announced that it has manufactured more than 500,000 XM-equipped vehicles and that it will exceed the 1 million mark by March 31, 2004. XM radios, including the critically acclaimed Delphi XM SKYFi radio are available at Best Buy, Circuit City, Wal-Mart and other major retailers nationwide (via Mike Terry, UK, DXLD)

** INTERNATIONAL VACUUM. XM-EH? XM Satellite Radio is working with a major Canadian broadcast group, with the goal of providing service to the great North Woods. Their satellite footprint already covers much of the Canadian population, the great majority of which lives within 200 miles of U.S. territory. Meanwhile, comes this from ``The

Washington Post``: ``XM gave investors a jolt when it revealed that its insurers rejected its \$400 million claim on the two orbiting satellites its service depends on. The satellites, launched in 2001, were supposed to work for about 17 years, but defects related to their solar panels mean they will only be useful until 2008. Moreover, the malfunctions are forcing the company to take on \$320 million in expenses early because XM must now launch its spare satellite next year and pay for a fourth, spare satellite in 2005.

The company says it has enough money to launch the third satellite, but not enough to pay for a new spare unless the insurance settlement comes through or it can find alternative financing.

The insurance dispute comes when XM is still vulnerable as a start-up. The company's revenues have grown quickly in the past year, but it is still losing money as it attempts to lure new customers with cheeky advertising and \$9.99 monthly prices.

XM reported it lost \$164.3 million (\$1.38 per share) in the quarter ended June 30, compared with a loss of \$122.4 million (\$1.38) a year earlier. XM lost money despite a jump in revenue, due almost entirely to an increase in the number of subscribers. Revenue climbed to \$18.3 million, from \$3.8 million a year ago. The company added 210,000 customers during the quarter, bringing its subscriber count to nearly 700,000.

But depreciation expenses related to the falling value of its satellites ballooned to \$39.8 million from \$24.5 million a year ago.``
ñ Just thought you'd wanna know, but don't tell the Romulans about the Insurance thing! (Greg Hardison, Broadcast Band Update Aug 15 via DXLD) more under USA

** ISRAEL. I am 95% sure that I heard Israel Radio announce that from this coming Sunday, Aug 17, DST would end and English broadcasts would shift one UT hour later (Chris Hambly, Vic., Aug 15, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Maybe; the Israelis are always litigating over this matter, and some years the change has been made already in August, but
<http://www.timeanddate.com/time/dst2003b.html>
shows the change date is Oct 2, or Oct 3 on the unofficial site
<http://www.israelradio.org/summer03.htm>
(Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST) See also POWERLINE COMMUNICATIONS

** OKLAHOMA. Re KMKZ-1640 Enid: The FCC's records show their first CP was for a tower slightly taller than a quarter wavelength (107.4 degrees electrical height). The newer CP for the new site shows two towers exactly a quarter wavelength tall (90 degrees electrical

height). Were they initially going to diplex off somebody else's tower (maybe their station that KMKZ will replace; if it's still on the air)? (Dennis Gibson, CA, IRCA via DXLD)

Lobes? You mean as in directional? I thought all X-banders were non-directional, or supposed to be (Paul Swearingen, Topeka, ibid.)

1660-NJ and 1670-So. CA are both directional.
(Patrick Martin, Seaside OR, KAVT Reception Manager, ibid.)

Yes, they were originally going to diplex off one of the Three Towers of KCRC-1390 on the north side of Enid. Glad they thought better of that. They have no plans to turn off 1390. And yes, Paul, it will be one of the few direxional X-banders. Hmmm, now how about stereo? Mr Champlin hopes IBOC will work out now... (Glenn Hauser, Enid, IRCA via DXLD)

** ST. PIERRE & MIQUELON. R. Atlantique, 102.1 MHz, returned my original reception report with written notation in French, ``This report is correct. What do you mean by QSL dard?`` (Gauvin, NB, Verie Interesting, Aug CIDX Messenger via DXLD) Yes, the term ``QSL-card`` probably should not be referred to when writing local AM or FM stations, at least not without some explanation. Most people working at these stations do not see too many reception rpeorts and would not be familiar with the Q-code (Mickey Delmage, ed., ibid.)

** TURKEY. If pirate radio sounds too risky but you'd like to get on the air, David Crystal from Israel has written us a great solution. The Voice of Turkey has a show called Turkey Live which airs every Tuesday from 1845 to 1920 on 9785. The concept is that they give out their number after the news at 1830 and when you call in you give your name and number and they call you back at their expense. Then you can talk about anything you like for 30 minutes. This is a great opportunity to ``play radio`` and it's legal. David says he frequently calls and takes over the airwaves when he sees no one else has. He says it's a great way to speak to the world over a 500 kW transmitter without censorship for free. We should pass this info on to our poor brothers and sisters in Brattleboro and the Netherlands (Steve Karlock, Captain's Log, Aug CIDX Messenger via DXLD)

** U K. BBC Downfall, Continued

``the problem here goes beyond the errors of judgment made by one reporter and the unwillingness of his higher-ups to acknowledge responsibility. It speaks to a culture of bias that has crept into the news reporting of what was once a very fine media organization.``

Wall Street Journal REVIEW & OUTLOOK

THE BBC'S SEXED-UP REPORT --- NO BIAS, PLEASE. WE'RE BRITISH.
Thursday, August 14, 2003

The worst thing that can be said of a serious news organization is that it is cavalier about reporting the truth as it understands it. Gain a reputation for political bias in reports billed as objective and you can be sure to lose the trust -- and patronage -- of a significant part of your audience. So only a media giant whose shareholders are under lock and key could be as sanguine as the British Broadcasting Corporation's senior management has been after this week's embarrassing revelations.

The BBC, which is funded by a compulsory \$180-a-year tax on every British household with a television, has effectively gone to war with the British government over its report that Prime Minister Tony Blair's top spokesman and adviser ``sexed up`` a dossier on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. The May 29 report by Andrew Gilligan aired on the agenda-setting BBC Radio 4 ``Today`` program. It was then picked up by other reports and repeated in newspapers and broadcasts around the world. David Kelly, a senior adviser to the Defense Ministry, was the source for both Mr. Gilligan and a separate story filed by BBC ``Newsnight`` reporter Susan Watts. Ms. Watts's report on the dossier never charged Downing Street and Mr. Blair's chief press spokesman Alastair Campbell with deliberate tampering--and particularly with inserting a sensational but unreliable claim that Saddam could launch a WMD attack in 45 minutes. During the inquiry yesterday into the suicide of Dr. Kelly, Ms. Watts blew Mr. Gilligan's tendentious report out of the water.

Ms. Watts released a tape of her last conversation with Dr. Kelly, who makes clear that he is not in a position to assert that Mr. Campbell inserted anything into the intelligence report. Ms. Watts said of her conversations with Dr. Kelly, ``He didn't say to me that the dossier was transformed in the last week and he certainly didn't say that the 45-minute claim was inserted either by Alastair Campbell or by anyone else in government. In fact, he denied specifically that Alastair Campbell was involved in the conversation on May 30...he was very clear to me that the claim was in the original intelligence.``

It's one thing for a news report to fall short. The normal course of events is for that failing to be acknowledged and corrected. But not only has the BBC refused to do so, it appears to have tried to bury the error. A July 6 minute from a meeting of the BBC Board of Governors lamented that ``careful language had not been applied by Andrew Gilligan throughout.`` But otherwise the BBC has displayed no regrets.

Ms. Watts testified yesterday that the BBC seemed primarily interested in corroborating Mr. Gilligan's account rather than in the merits of her own reports: ``I felt under some considerable pressure to reveal my source. I also felt the purpose of that was to help corroborate the Andrew Gilligan allegations and not for any proper news purpose.'' And, ``I was most concerned that there was an attempt to mold [her reports] so that they were corroborative which I felt was misguided and false.``

As our European editorial page deputy editor Mike Gonzalez wrote last week, the problem here goes beyond the errors of judgment made by one reporter and the unwillingness of his higher-ups to acknowledge responsibility. It speaks to a culture of bias that has crept into the news reporting of what was once a very fine media organization.
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Craig, WPE1HNS, Meredith, NH USA
Drake R8B/Alpha Delta DX Sloper, Sony SW-77, Sony ICF-2010, 2 x
Phillips/Magnavox D2935, Uniden CR-2021
Knight Kit Star Roamer (permanently tuned to Turkey on 9460)
GE Superadio II/Select-A-Tenna, Delphi Ski-Fi XM/3`` Antennae
Tuning since 1963 (``King Pineapple,`` rec.radio.shortwave August 15
via John Norfolk, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. Roy Neal, K6DUE, SK (Aug 15, 2003) -- Retired NBC News space correspondent, producer and executive Roy Neal, K6DUE, died August 15 in High Point, North Carolina. He was 82. Neal underwent major heart surgery August 12 and was reported to be recovering. Recognized as a leading news expert in spaceflight and science, Neal -- born Roy N. Hinkel -- covered all of the Mercury missions for NBC and later reported the Gemini and Apollo missions and the space shuttle flights. Capitalizing on his space news experience, Neal became involved with the Space Amateur Radio EXperiment Working group. SAREX -- now Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) -- is a joint project of ARRL, AMSAT and NASA that put Amateur Radio aboard space shuttles and developed the first permanent ham station in space aboard the ISS. Neal chaired the SAREX/ARISS Working Group and moderated ARISS international team gatherings and, quite often, school group contact teleconferences.

Earlier this year, he was inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame for his role in persuading NASA officials to allow Amateur Radio operation from space in the 1980s. Neal also was a regular visitor and sometime presenter at Hamvention. He hosted the 1987 ARRL video production, New World Of Amateur Radio, an overview of ham radio in space. A Pennsylvania native, Neal's broadcasting career began at WIBG radio in Philadelphia. He served as a combat infantry officer during World War II and later became a program manager for the Armed Forces

Radio Network in Europe. After the war, he was a television pioneer at WPTZ-TV in Philadelphia. He subsequently set up NBC's West Coast news bureau. An ARRL member and active amateur operator all his adult life, Neal enjoyed DXing and frequented all HF bands. He also enjoyed VHF. Survivors include his wife Pat and sons David and Mark. Arrangements are pending (ARRL August 15 via John Norfolk, DXLD)

**** U S A. HAMS A BRIGHT SPOT DURING POWER BLACKOUT**

NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 15, 2003 -- When a blip on the electricity distribution grid August 14 took out power to at least a half dozen states in the eastern US, many Amateur Radio operators were ready and able to provide whatever assistance they could. Hardest hit were metropolitan areas like New York City, Detroit and Cleveland. In New York, residents and commuters found themselves stranded in electricity-dependent elevators and subway or rail cars while visitors ended up stuck at airports, which were forced to shut down. With the cellular telephone system overloaded or out altogether, the incident turned into a test of Amateur Radio's capabilities to operate without commercial power.

``It was a good drill,`` said New York City-Long Island Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Carrubba, KA2D. But, he adds, it was a cautionary tale too. ``The lesson is that everybody gets a little complacent,`` he said. ``Have emergency power backup and make sure it's working!`` Some repeaters in the blacked-out Greater New York City area--including the primary 147.000 ``TAC 2`` machine--were down, but several others remained on the air with emergency power.

By and large, Carrubba said, the system worked according to plan, and ARES members did what they were trained to do. ``It's going to show the worth of Amateur Radio,`` he said of the blackout response. ``There were people on the air immediately.``

Diane Ortiz, K2D0, the Public Information Coordinator for NYC-Long Island was one of them. When power went down in her Suffolk County community, she started up an informal net on the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club's 146.85 repeater. Over the next 20 hours or so, the net passed approximately 500 pieces of what Ortiz described as largely ``health-and-welfare traffic.`` A lot of it was on behalf of individuals stuck in the city and needing to contact family members.

``People are getting on and helping,`` she said. In addition to handling messages, amateurs also relayed useful information, such as which stores or filling stations were open and operating. Many radio and TV stations went dark as a result of the power failure, and hams were able to help fill the information void, Ortiz said.

In the Big Apple itself, ARES New York City-Long Island District Emergency Coordinator Charles Hargrove, N2NOV, remained at the city's Red Cross Headquarters in Manhattan, where power was restored around 5 AM.

``There are some power fluctuations going on, and that is the main concern right now--that power may go off again,`` Hargrove told ARRL.

ARES support of Red Cross operations, which began yesterday, continues. ARES teams are providing communication for the Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs) set up at main transportation centers in Manhattan--Grand Central Station, Penn Station and at the Port Authority Terminal. ARES members also accompanied ERVs called into action to follow New York Fire Department personnel on more than two dozen fire calls.

``After a long night of operations, some ARES members went home to get some rest around 6 AM,`` Hargrove said.

RACES organizations activated in most Greater New York City area counties after a state of emergency was declared. Some ARES teams -- including a few across the Hudson River in New Jersey -- activated or remained on standby to help if called upon. In New Jersey, a net set up on a back-up repeater established communication with the Red Cross lead chapter's N2ARC in Princeton -- staffed by members of Mercer County ARES/RACES -- and other New Jersey ARC chapters.

The state of emergency included five counties in northern new Jersey, said SEC Steve Ostrove, K2SO. He spent about four hours at the EOC in Elizabeth after the blackout began. ``The Elizabeth Police were impressed with the information I was able to provide,`` he said. The net stood down at about 10 PM after telephone communication among the Red Cross chapters had been reestablished and power began to be restored.

In upstate New York, Fred Stevens, K2FRD, says the situation reminded him of the 1964 power blackout in the eastern US. ``This is an emergency communicator's wildest fantasy: a major power outage in which we can demonstrate our preparedness,`` he said.

In his county, Chenango, ARES has been activated and the local EOC is staffed by Amateur Radio operators and the Chenango Amateur Radio Emergency Service net is up and running with stations on battery power and standing by. ``We are ready for whatever might happen,`` Stevens said.

Comments posted on the HamsEF reflector by Ken Davis, KB2KFV, who's president of the Rensselaer, New York, County ARES/RACES Club

reflected that attitude.

``It seems that the amateurs were better prepared than the government sector,`` he said. ``Amateurs in this area were up and on the air before there was any response from local government.`` Davis said Rensselaer County EC and Chief RACES Officer Jim Noble, K2ZP, activated ARES and mustered a net on the Troy Radio Club RACES repeater, requesting stations to standby and monitor the frequency for updates.

Michigan and Ohio

Michigan Section Manager Dale Williams, WA8EFK, reports scattered ARES activations in his state. Williams, who lives in Dundee south of Detroit, was without power this morning and relying on his emergency generator. ``It could be another 48 hours before power is restored,`` he said. Some ARES teams in Michigan were providing assistance to emergency operations centers and to the Red Cross, because the relief agency's telephone system relies on commercial power. Nets have been brought up on both HF and VHF frequencies.

In Ohio, Section Emergency Coordinator Larry Rain, WD8IHP, reports that all ARES organizations in northern Ohio were activated after the power grid went down. Still going strong are ARES teams in Cleveland and Akron -- both still without power. ``ARES is handling communication support for Ohio Emergency Management in the affected cities and communities,`` Rain said. Power has been restored in Toledo, however.

Rain reports a power surge that occurred when the electricity came back on disrupted the Richland County Hospital's telephone system. ``Amateur Radio was there to provide back-up communication until 4:30 this morning,`` he said. Ohio VHF and UHF nets and the Ohio SSB net on HF have been handling blackout-related traffic.

Nancy Hall, KC4IYD -- who lives 20 miles west of Cleveland -- said she's glad of two things: That she had taken the ARRL Emergency Communications Level I class, and that she and her husband have an emergency generator. ``We used it to run the fridge for about two hours and then used it to run the 2-meter rig and HF rig to listen to the ARES nets,`` she said.

She said she just received a follow-up survey on the emergency communications class that asked if she had used any of the information she learned.

``I can now say, 'yes,`` said Hall, who noted that she's now signed up for the Level II class. ``I will again highly recommend them to

anyone who wants to learn more about emergency communication.'' She and her husband also made use of their BayGen windup radio to listen to local broadcasts. ''We also own a hand-crank flashlight,'' she added.

She said the family put aside drinking water early in the blackout -- which turned out to be a good thing, because their community's emergency generator was only good for about two hours to run the water supply's pumps.

''I have to say that being a ham and knowing about emergency preparedness did make life easier for me and my family,'' Hall said.

New England

New England states were far less affected by the blackout since most operate on an altogether different power grid than the one that failed. New England area ARES/RACES operators were in standby mode after the blackout rippled through the system to the south and west. Only Connecticut and sections of Western Massachusetts reported significant outages, and ARES nets activated in both states.

ARRL Eastern Massachusetts PIC Jim Duarte, N1IV, reports the ARES/RACES response in the Bay State was ''quick and organized, showing that our recent drills and training sessions have proved beneficial.''

Western Massachusetts SM Bill Voedisch, W1UD, reports the Leominster EOC was activated on a standby basis. Although he is equipped with a diesel-powered generator to supply his house and ham shack, his part of Massachusetts suffered no power losses.

Parts of Berkshire County in extreme western Massachusetts suffered from the blackout, although power was restored fairly promptly there. Bill Sexton, N1IN/AAR1FP, an Army MARS member, said his emergency power capability permitted him to run his station and maintain e-mail contact.

''We had the Northeast SHARES (National Communications System HF Shared Resources Program) up and running cross-country on a Condition Two readiness alert,'' Sexton said. He reports that when he called in on the SHARES channel, a MARS station in Nebraska responded to say he was ready to handle any relays.

''The experience proved once gain the great strength of ham radio in an emergency,'' Sexton said. ''It is self-starting, and it is everywhere.'' Copyright © 2003, American Radio Relay League, Inc. All Rights Reserved (via John Norfolk, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

**** U S A. HAM RADIO VERSUS CELL PHONES**

Dear cell phone warriors, as evidenced by the unfortunate circumstances afflicting NY, Detroit, Cleveland, Erie, etc, one can now see why HAM radio is a necessity.

As these areas have lost power, the cell phone networks have failed.

Some of you that post to this group have suggested that Amateur Radio is a thing of the past, with world wide communication available to anyone in the terms of cell phones.

This is why Amateur radio is a must, that the operators should be praised for their continuing engagement in a hobby that has great potential for the benefit of our society. Disaster communications is a specialty of HAMS, maybe not in this circumstance (maybe so), but throughout the history of Amateur radio this certainly has been true. Hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes, anything sufficiently destructive to damage or destroy common modes of communications, such as that used by the cell phone networks, and even the established communication systems used by the police, fire, etc. Our police communication system in Pittsburgh is commonly knocked out by lightning. HAMS have the versatility to create impromptu communication systems second to none. No one else has the tremendous supply and distribution of radio systems.

I urge people to pursue the hobby of Amateur radio, to become proficient in it, and to be respectful of it. Besides, it's fun.

Regards to all those in afflicted areas, though you might not be able to read this at this time. Never say never. Nothing is absolute. ('`The Dawn Soliloquy,`` rec. radio.shortwave August 14 via John Norfolk, DXLD)

Subject: Re: NY and Ontario power failure
rnewell@vcn.bc.ca wrote in message
``good time to do some dxing while the interference level is low...``

Here's a report on how radio kept broadcasting during the 1965 blackout: <http://members.aol.com/jeff570/blkout65.html>

This is from Jeff Miller's fascinating History of American Broadcasting page: <http://members.aol.com/jeff560/jeff.html>

Frank Dresser (rec.radio.shortwave August 14 via John Norfolk, DXLD) More under CANADA!

** U S A. IN THURSDAY'S CRISIS, RADIO WAS KING AGAIN
Friday, August 15, 2003 BY JOHN SMYNTAK FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER
http://www.freep.com/news/latestnews/blackout/pm4123_20030815.htm

Radio, the first mass broadcast medium, reassumed its dominance Thursday when power failed in the Detroit metro area. Within minutes of the power failure shortly after 4 p.m., the area's two major radio news providers, all-news WWJ-AM (950) and news/talk WJR-AM (760), abandoned most regular programming and quickly became the best means of finding out what happened.

Television, dominant during most other news breaks, was largely crippled by its own power problems and the inability of many people affected to see TV. Most of the region's cable and dish systems were out, and battery or generator-powered TVs were far outnumbered by battery and car radios. TVs that worked had to use over-the-air signals that reportedly were snowy or hard to watch.

According to officials at both WWJ and WJR, their emergency equipment and procedures worked as designed. However, several area FM stations were unable to operate. WDIV-TV (Channel 4) news director Deborah Collura said it allowed several Clear Channel-owned FM music stations to simulcast its news coverage, making its reportage available on radio.

At WWJ, vice president and general manager Rich Homberg said the station went into noncommercial mode and broadcast phone reports from its street reporters and traffic copter all afternoon. "When it was apparent that no terrorism was involved," Homberg said, "it was kind of like coverage of a major snowstorm. It's been mostly service, service, service."

Even people who aren't normally frontline reporters like traffic reporter Terry T. Brown helped out with reports from a downtown Coney Island, the Checker Bar and the MGM Grand casino.

Homberg and WJR operations chief Steve Stewart praised local government and public safety officials for their accessibility and calm under fire.

"They were in pretty good shape," said Homberg, "and there was very little sense of panic." At WJR, veteran news and sportscaster Frank Beckmann, working for the vacationing Mitch Albom, anchored WJR's coverage. Stewart said some commercials were run later in the evening, in part to provide on-air staff with a break. Homberg declined to estimate the cost of going commercial-free.

"It's the cost of doing business, of being of service," he said.

Both Channel 4 and WJBK-TV (Channel 2) officials scrambled to get seldom-used power units functioning in the hot weather. WJBK assistant news director Gavin Maliska said the station had to move outside with Murray Feldman's anchor reports when an inside power unit failed. It used equipment on a satellite truck until the internal generator was back online.

A partial check of the dial indicated WVMV-FM (98.7), WYCD-FM, (99.5), WRIF-FM (101.1), WOMC-FM (104.3) and WKQI-FM (95.5) managed to continue broadcasting during the blackout (via Jilly Dybka, DXLD)

** U S A. BLACKOUT --- JUST A THOUGHT: This has nothing to do with Broadcasting --- but, am I the only one who thinks this past week's Great Computer Worm may have had something to do with Thursday's Great East Coast Power Outage of 2003? On a more relevant angle, ``Radio and Records`` reveals that WFAN/660 was knocked off the air in the Big Apple, as were WINS/1010 (all NewsOouch!), and FMers WBLS/107.5, WPAT-93.1 and WNEW/102.7. Apparently, Radio Disney outlet WQEW/1560 was off the air longer than any other NYC stationOwhich may say something positive about Blackouts. (QEW's transmitter site sits by itself in Queens; all other AMs are across the Hudson in Jersey, except for the shared site of WCBS & WFAN, on City Island.) Meanwhile, the Clear Channel NYers got together for a simulcast of audio from WNBC-TV; other stations were knocked off the air in the Hudson River Valley, and two biggies in Cleveland were bit by the bug, WGAR/99.5 and heritage Rocker WMSW/100.7. The CBC was affected in Canada, as well, with several networks having to hook together for various simulcasts. Might be a good week for auxiliary generator salespeople in the Northeast, no??

JUSTICE FOR RIGHTEOUS TALKERS: Congrats to Michael Benner for landing a daytime gig, Friday afternoons at 1 PM on KPFK/90.7. I had the privilege of working with Michael during his short-term KABC Friday Night show, for a few months back around 1985 or so. Liberal Michael and Conservative/Pragmatist Ray Briem were by far the two best hosts, in terms of dealing with opposing views. The problem is, not too many folks had the brains or other essential body parts to go head-to-head with Michael; instead he prompted several small minds to threaten sponsors, and to commit similar distasteful acts. These days, Talkradio is much more subjectiveOusually to the Right.

Michael's views are vital to a balanced public discourse on the air. Pacifica Foundation would be wise to A) schedule his program one hour earlier, to catch the L.A.-area lunchers, and B) syndicate his show to the other four Pacifica markets. Pacifica needs to abandon its own internal politics long enough to seize this, their best opportunity for actual growth in many years.

L.A.'s own Michael Jackson is up for honors in Chicago on November 8, as he is inducted into the Radio Hall Of Fame. He joins a distinguished list, including another great talk-show pilot, Jim Bohannon, a rare voice of reason who started as Larry King's weekend fill-in on the old Mutual network in the late '70s. Other honorees include ex-KMPC owner Gene Autry, Infinity top-cat Mel Karmazin, and 33-year WGN Farm Director Orien Samuelson, who was syndicated for many years as host of the ``National Farm Report``.

This all takes place on November 8, to be covered in a live broadcast with host Larry King. The event is being produced and syndicated by Westwood One, and is slated to air on both major Chicago big-gun signals, Tribune's WGN/720 and Disney's WLS/890. I wonder who cut THAT deal? (No word on where, or if, we'll hear this on the Left Coast, but at last check, WGN was streaming at <http://wgnradio.com>

FYI, the latest Chi-town book shows perennial leader WGN on top, with a 6.7 earned through its full service/news-talk format. Westwood One/Infinity stalwart WBBM/780 (all-News) languishes with a 5.1, under the ``leadership`` of Program Director Drew (``Screw``) Hayes; and such programming could only help WLS, bringing up the rear of the big-AM-News/Talk pack with a 4.7. Infinity's Hayes is also in charge of the other big-traditional Chicago signal, WSCR (formerly WMAQ)/670. I'm awaiting the delivery of an electron-microscope here at the Publishing Center, to examine `SCR's Arbitron figures.

Anyway, congrats to Michael ñ and also to Rollye James, formerly overnights on the old KMPC/710 and a future Hall Of Fame member (hopefully). Rollye has spent the past couple of years doing Midnight-2 AM at Infinity's WPHT/1210 in Philadelphia, and has won many fans and followers via the huge 1210 signal which bathes the East Coast and Midwest. More are on the way, as Rollye's very different program is slated for nationwide syndication by Jones Satellite Networks. Rollye's not just one of the best females on the air, but one of the best living-breathing talkers period, in my humble opinion and certainly not without a history of controversy. (You may recall, she earned a visit from the Secret Service in 1996, after implying on the air that the Clintons should be shot. No charges were filed from her comments, aired on KLBJ/590 in Austin. Yes, THAT ``LBJ``. She was fired, and later won a cash award due to disparaging comments made about her by a honcho at LBJ Broadcasting. Rollye has known few dull moments.)

While we're in the 'hood, a tally conducted by Austin-based Benchmark reveals 61% of Talkradio listeners surveyed prefer local hosts, to syndicated fare such as Limbaugh, Schlessinger, Imus and Stern. As well as the Biz is run these days, I'm sure this will lead to a new plethora of Syndicated programming --- rest assured, though, many of

those same surveyees made it clear that Talkradio was, in their views, Entertainment, NOT News!

COULDN'T HELP IT: Maybe it's my own warped perceptions, but I had to chuckle at this, from the <http://dailyfreeman.com> describing a lightning-hit at Christian radio station WFGB in Kingston, NY.

``Spokeswoman Connie VanKleeck said there were no injuries when the Christian radio network's facility on Tuytenbridge Road studio was hit 6 p.m. Sunday. ``We're saying we'll be off two to three days, but it could be more,`` she said. ``We had smoke coming out of the control board,`` VanKleeck said. ``There was a change of shifts at the time. No one was hurt, but all the computer and broadcast electronics were just fried.``

While telephone service was restored quickly, officials said the status of other equipment was still being assessed and updates about operations will be posted on the network Web site at <http://www.soundoflife.org> as repairs to the studio are made. ``Our engineer is estimating there was probably more than \$30,000 (in damage), but we're not sure,`` VanKleeck said.

The station began broadcasting in 1986, with a combination of local and national programming, and has grown to include relaying its signal on 12 frequencies covering parts of six states.

VanKleeck said there is a slight sense of irony in having an act of God knock a religious broadcasting network off the air. ``We live in a world that is not perfect,`` she said. ``Bad things happen to all kinds of people, including (at) Christian radio stations.``

JUST ANOTHER THOUGHT: ``The New York Post`` reveals that the Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn is renting out parochial-school roof space to Cellular Telephone service providers, and some of little Johnny's parental units are prepped to raise those roofs, in protest. Seems the Diocese is having cash-flow problems (criminal lawyers ARE expensive these days, after all!), and Those Concerned With Our Collective Well Being are a'feared of electromagnetic emissions and subsequent mutations from these cell-towers. The scientific jury is still out on such matters; my own opinion leans toward the controversy being much ado over nothing. Whether I'm right or wrong, I do see a growing number of L.A.-area Apartment houses, with those very same cell-phone sticks all over them, akin to cheap suits. It may or may not be ``safe`` to attend classes under the Cellular umbrella—what about LIVING under one?? Has the 15-plus year old Cellular Lobby put the investigative kibbosh on the EPA?? Is anyone at Underwriters' Labs listening?? Until the next, Peace and Prosperity (Greg Hardison, Broadcast Band Update Aug 15 via DXLD) more under INTERNATIONAL VACUUM

** U S A. GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATE ERROR COSTS BROADCASTER \$3,000

The FCC has discovered that the actual location of the WUFF AM&FM tower in Georgia differed from the authorized coordinates by over 1/3 mile. The tower owner was initially fined \$4,000 for the oversight, but the forfeiture was reduced to \$3,000 on reconsideration, based on the stations' otherwise excellent record of rule compliance.

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-03-2616A1.doc

\$10,000 FINE AGAINST THE REV. YVON LOUIS AFFIRMED

This FCC case involves a series of unauthorized FM broadcasts from Calvary Tabernacle in Brooklyn, New York. Over the course of several months, the Rev. Yvon Louis reportedly transmitted on 93.7 MHz, then switched to 88.1 MHz after getting caught, then used 90.1 MHz after getting caught again, then reverted to 88.1 MHz. Amazing.

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-03-2589A1.doc
(via Fred Vobbe, NRC FMTV via DXLD)

** U S A. Dear Glenn: The following press release reports on the latest - and possibly the last - step in the Rambus v. Infineon saga, one of the most closely-watched high tech court cases in years, with over a billion dollars in royalties at stake. Either the Supreme Court takes the case, or Infineon -- and everyone else who sets standards, builds to standards, or uses technology -- comes out a loser. (Priscilla McMullen, Director of Marketing, Lucash, Gesmer & Updegrove, gh at Monitoring Times via DXLD)

BOSTON LAW FIRM, INDUSTRY GROUPS FILE BRIEF WITH SUPREME COURT IN CASE THAT COULD UNDERCUT TECHNOLOGY AND OTHER INDUSTRIES

Brief is filed in Rambus v. Infineon on behalf of Standard Setting Organizations representing over 8,600 member entities

BOSTON, August 13, 2003 - Boston-based law firm Lucash, Gesmer & Updegrove LLP today announced that it had filed a "friend of the court" brief with the United States Supreme Court in Rambus v. Infineon, one of the most closely watched cases in the technology industry. Ten major standard setting bodies, as well as several leading financial industry corporations and a standard setting joint venture, are parties to the brief. The combined membership of the standard setting bodies exceeds 8,600, including most major U.S. technology companies, as well as many government agencies, universities, and other entities.

The brief was filed on behalf of the parties on a "pro bono" -- or fee-free -- basis by Lucash, Gesmer & Updegrove. "Rambus v. Infineon goes to the very heart of the integrity of the standard setting

process," said Andrew Updegrove, a partner at Lucash, Gesmer & Updegrove and the author of the brief. "As we are a national leader in forming and representing the organizations which set standards, we felt that it was our duty to acquaint the Supreme Court with the importance of the issues involved. This is hardly the right time for the courts to be undercutting processes that are crucial to American technology, Homeland Security and national competitiveness."

The case is so significant that additional briefs were filed by the Attorneys General of 15 States and Puerto Rico, by the standard setting body whose process was involved, and by five semiconductor companies.

The case history of Rambus v. Infineon has been a roller coaster, with first one side, and then the other, gaining the advantage. Moreover, estimates of the industry-wide royalties at stake run as high as a billion dollars. But the impact of the case goes far beyond just the memory industry. If the Supreme Court does not take the case, the process that sets the more than 100,000 standards that affect nearly every aspect of daily life in this country will be undermined. As noted in the brief:

Voluntary standards, especially technology standards, are vital to the national interest, affecting almost all areas of modern life, safety and commerce.

The Federal government is dependent on such standards: Congress has mandated the use of voluntary consensus standards by the Federal agencies whenever possible.

The failure by the courts to protect the standard setting process would undercut the American economy and impair our international competitiveness.

Lucash, Gesmer & Updegrove LLP, a Boston-based technology law firm, gathered the impressive group of participants within the 30-day period allowed by court rules. The decision whether to take the case may be made by the Supreme Court as early as October of this year.

ABOUT RAMBUS V. INFINEON

The underlying facts are as follows: Rambus Inc., which develops semiconductor memory technology, participated in the standard setting process of the Joint Electron Devices Engineering Council (JEDEC) in the early 90's. During the design process, Rambus did not disclose that it held patents and patent applications on designs included in the standards. When companies, including Infineon, implemented those standards, Rambus sued for patent infringement. Infineon counterclaimed, citing fraud, and a trial court found Rambus guilty.

To the astonishment of almost all, the fraud verdict was overturned by a Federal District Appellate Court in January of this year. In the meantime, the Federal Trade Commission had brought claims against Rambus as well. A trial based upon those claims is currently taking place before an administrative law judge. In July, Infineon took the last defensive step available to it, and petitioned the Supreme Court to intervene.

ABOUT LUCASH, GESMER & UPDEGROVE LLP

Lucash, Gesmer & Updegrove, a Boston, Massachusetts-based technology law firm, is the leading US law firm representing standard setting consortia. It has helped form and represents some of the largest and most influential standard setting organizations in the world. Andrew Updegrove, who leads the consortium practice group, has written and spoken extensively on the topics of standard setting, intellectual property rights and consortium formation, and has testified on those subjects before joint hearings of the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission. The firm created and hosts <http://www.consortiuminfo.org>, the most detailed and comprehensive site on the Internet on the topics of standard setting and consortia, and publishes a monthly eJournal on the same topics: the Consortium Standards Bulletin <http://www.consortiuminfo.org/bulletins/>

To view the brief as filed, see:

http://www.consortiuminfo.org/news/Rambus_Amicus_Brief.pdf

For more information about the Rambus v. Infineon case, see: Rambus - Hard Cases Make Bad Laws

<http://www.consortiuminfo.org/bulletins/feb03.php> - editorial

What Does Rambus Mean to You?

<http://www.consortiuminfo.org/bulletins/feb03.php> - featured

For more information about Lucash, Gesmer & Updegrove and its consortium clients, see:

http://www.lgu.com/practice_areas/consortium.shtml

(via DXLD)

** U S A [and non]. FREE RADIO WEEKLY #396 for 2003-AUG-16

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-MAIL DROPS-

*Basel: Box 510, CH-4010 Basel, SWITZERLAND

*Belfast: Box 1, Belfast, NY 14711

*BRS: Box 109, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214

*Elkhorn: Box 69, Elkhorn, NE 68022

*Herten: PO Box 2702, 6049ZG Herten, The Netherlands

*Hoogeveen: PO Box 663, 7900AR Hoogeveen, The Netherlands

*Huntsville: Box 11522, Huntsville, AL 35814

*Merlin: Box 293, Merlin, Ontario NOP 1W0, CANADA

*Providence: Box 28413, Providence, RI 02908

*Wuppertal: Box 220342, D-42373, Wuppertal, GERMANY
*Ytterby: C/o SRS News, Ostra Porten 29, S-442 54 Ytterby, SWEDEN

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-E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR STATIONS-

*Big Thunder Radio: bigthunderradio@hotmail.com
*Blind Faith Radio: blindfaithradio@yahoo.com
*Buckwheat Radio: buckwheatradio@hotmail.com
*Captain Ron SW: captainronswr@yahoo.com
*Ground Zero Radio: gzrsw@yahoo.com
*Ironman Radio: ironmanradio@hotmail.com
*Jolly Roger Radio Int'l: JR_Radio@hotmail.com
*KIPM: kipm_outerlimits@hotmail.com
*KMUD: vlfradio@triax.com
*KRMI Radio Michigan Int'l: KRMI6955@yahoo.com
*Laser Hot Hits: hothits@radiolink.net
*Radio Alfa-Lima: info@alfalima.net
*Radio Borderhunter: borderhunter@hotmail.com
*Radio Omroep Zuid Roz.am@iae.nl
*Ragnar Radio: ragnarradio@yahoo.com
*Seattle Free Radio: seattle4166@yahoo.com
*Shadow Radio: the_shadow6950@hotmail.com
*Sunshine Radio: sunshineradios@hotmail.com
*United Patriot Militia BINGO: yahwehradio6925@yahoo.com
*Undercover Radio: undercoverradio@mail.com
*Voodoo Radio: vudu11@hotmail.com
*Voice of the Angry Bastard: pigmeat_voab@yahoo.com
*Voice of Capt. Ron: captainronswr@yahoo.com,
captainron6955@hotmail.com
*WHYP: whyp6925@yahoo.com
*WMOE: wmoe6955@yahoo.com
*WPAT: brewmaster66@hotmail.com
*WPN World Parody Network: wpn_sw@yahoo.com
*Z100: bigz100fm@yahoo.com

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(via DXLD)

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COMMENTARY

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RADIO STATIONS, SUPERMARKETS [gh's title]

I had put a ``hold-mail`` for two weeks [vacation]. When I collected the post on arrival, it was just like Christmas. Magazines (Monitoring Times and Messenger, of course), books, catalogues, and goodies from SW stations in various parts of the globe. Not only QSLs, but interesting ``gifts``. Just one of the perks of DXing!

I've been in contact with some fellow DXers over the years and it's interesting to find out what people have collected. I'd like readers to share stories about what they've received from stations since they took up their interest. Some of the print materials and souvenirs are pretty neat; one guy from New Zealand told me that after he became a monitor for Deutsche Welle, he received a ``weather station`` (I'm not sure what that includes; I assume a barometer and thermostat [sic]). After I took up the monitoring job myself, DW sent a few goodies my way, including a briefcase, portable CD player, a copy of WRTH 2003 and DW bath towels (I guess they think I needed new ones!)

When I came back from holidays, the letter carrier handed over a big pile of mail which included a cassette tape of Uzbek music courtesy of Radio Tashkent (who had sent me a tourism guide earlier to Uzbekistan); QSLs and a newspaper from Radio Havana, a two-colour pen from Radio Taipei as well as a CBS facecloth (like DW, perhaps the Taiwan station thinks I'm in need of a bath?), and a QSL and postcards (the veri signer said I needed Lisbon sun, though given the brutally hot weather here I don't think we needed it) from Radio Portugal.

Perhaps one of the nicest gifts I received one time was from the Voice of Russia, a tape of their ``Folk Box`` program, which dealt with Russian songs and customs celebrating the birth of a baby. What was really touching was the introduction to the programme, which said this was for their ``listener in Canada, Sue Hickey, who was expecting her first child.`` Now when Brigid gets older, I'll be able to play the tape for her and tell her how much that people overseas were thinking about her before she was born.

At any rate, though, while the perks are great, the important thing is to keep in touch with SW stations around the world --- with financial cuts they really need to prove they have strong and loyal listeners (Sue Hickey, Grand Falls-Windsor, NF, CIDX Forum, Aug Messenger via DXLD)

POWERLINE COMMUNICATIONS  
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Mr. G., have a look at this...

PowerLine Communication Home Network Technology eLibrary -  
Powerline Networking - Power Line PLC Powerline Network  
<http://www.plugtek.com/index.shtml>

Israel is about to begin BPL test trials, offering the experimental service free of charge. Maybe the massive power outage will persuade the utility industry to concentrate on PPL (POWER over powerlines)

instead of meddling in unrelated ventures such as internet service.  
73. (Bill Smith, W5USM, TX, Aug 15, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

PROPAGATION  
+++++

25 MHz openings: see FRANCE above

#### THE K7RA SOLAR UPDATE

SEATTLE, WA, Aug 15, 2003 -- The average daily sunspot numbers for the week was about the same this week as last, and daily solar flux was only slightly higher. Solar flux is expected to peak over the next few days -- such as it is in this declining phase of the solar cycle. Expect solar flux values around 135 for Saturday, August 16. Solar flux is expected to gradually decline to below 100 around August 24. Geomagnetic indicators should be unsettled to active Friday, August 15, but should quiet down over the next week. Predicted planetary A index for August 15-18 is 20, 15, 10 and 10.

Currently there is just one sunspot group facing Earth, and it seems to be growing fast as it moves into optimum position for Earth-directed radiation. This presents a wild card for conditions over the next couple of days, since it could be the source of increasing solar wind.

Some editions of last week's bulletin contained a claim that in 57,617 BC Mars was only 34.62 miles from Earth, which of course was not the case. This calls for a visit to a news item on the Bad Astronomy Web site. Phil Plait of Sonoma State University in California runs the Bad Astronomy site to help dissuade and debunk some misconceptions that creep into films, television, popular culture and even science textbooks. [See]  
<http://www.badastronomy.com/bad/news/index.html>

In an August 13 item he talks about the excitement over Mars being close to earth, and points out that it will be only about 1 percent closer than it was in 1971.

Bruce Irving of Eagle, Idaho, was K7ISM many years ago, and he wrote this week asking about some ghosting he saw on his television set after 0200 UTC on Sunday, August 10. He wasn't able to ID the station, but noted that the image of a musical group performing wasn't on any of his other local channels in the Boise area. He asked if this could be skip from a channel 2 station outside his area. I believe his hunch is correct. He noted that channel 2 is just about the same frequency as the 6-meter ham band, and--being the lowest-frequency TV channel--it is the one most likely to experience long

distance propagation. In this case, it was probably some summertime E-layer propagation.

For more information on propagation and an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin see the Propagation page on the ARRL Web site [at] <http://www2.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>

Sunspot numbers for August 7 through 13 were 121, 111, 107, 112, 118, 114 and 112, with a mean of 113.6. The 10.7-cm flux was 137, 132.9, 130, 131.1, 129.2, 123.3 and 130.8, with a mean of 130.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 15, 32, 15, 12, 11, 25 and 17, with a mean of 18.1.

Amateur solar observer Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, provides this weekly report on solar conditions and propagation. This report also is available via W1AW every Friday and an abbreviated version also appears in The ARRL Letter. Readers may contact the author via [k7ra@arrl.net](mailto:k7ra@arrl.net) Copyright © 2003, American Radio Relay League, Inc. All Rights Reserved (via John Norfolk, DXLD) ###